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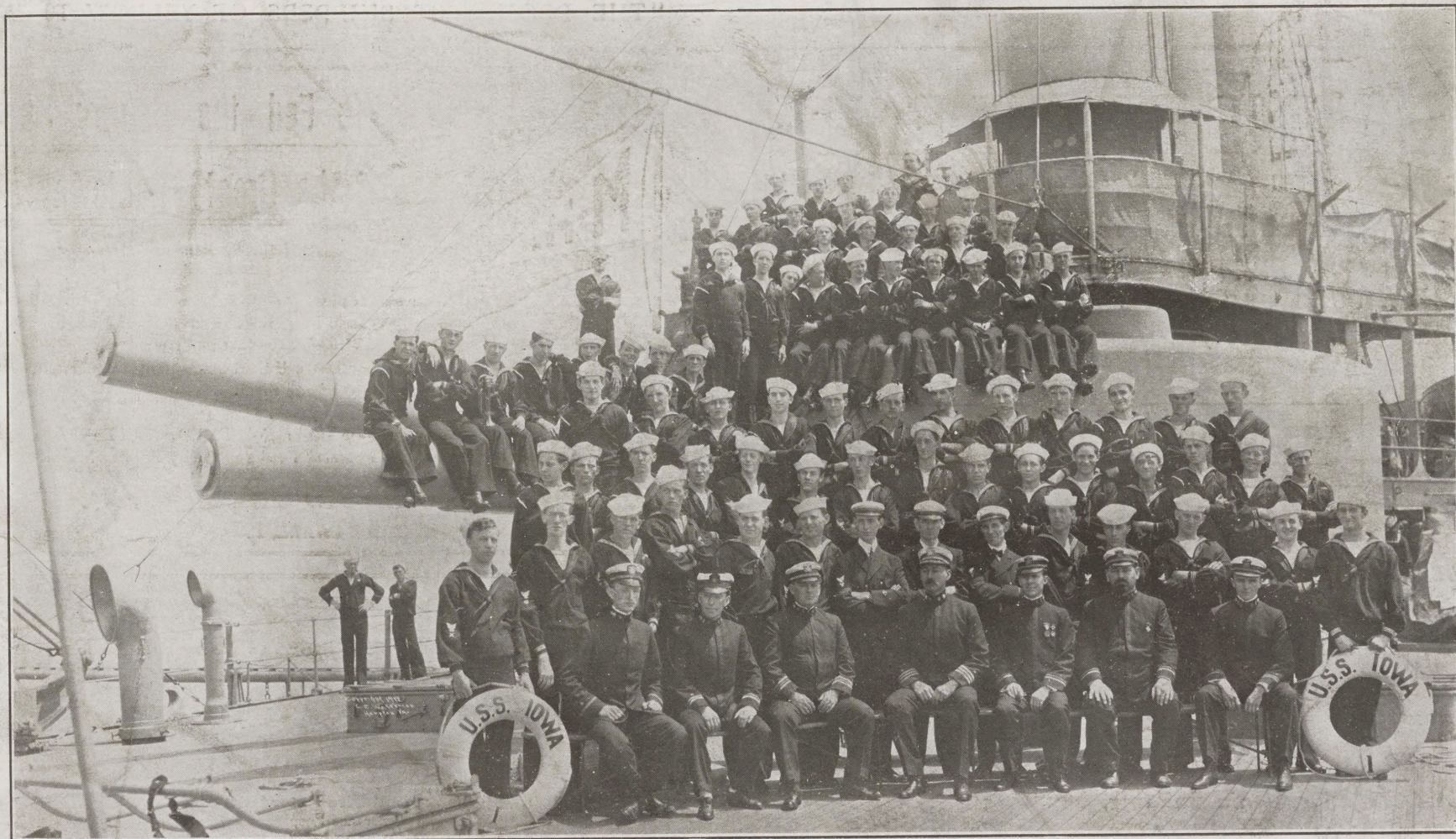
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Naval Force, Pennsylvania

The picture of the group on the Iowa on our front page was taken during the recent cruise of the Philadelphia Divisions of the Pennsylvania Naval Militia on that vessel.

This year's tour of duty of the Naval Militia marks a distinct advance over any previous methods of training this branch of the service and was intended to serve as somewhat of a practical test of the availability of the Naval Militia as real reserve of the Navy.

The problem was to take one of the battleships lying in the back channel in the Navy Yard and having on board a skeleton crew of regulars only sufficient to maintain the vessel in good order and then to put on board sufficient naval militiamen to make up a ship's complement and send this vessel out to sea officered and manned in this way.

The first vessel chosen for the experiment was the battleship Iowa, one of the largest of the older battleships of the fleet.

The complement was made up by putting on board the Philadelphia Militia and about eighty from the Baltimore Militia who came over by train to join the ship.

With this combined crew the vessel got under way on June 29 at the Navy Yard and proceeded down to the capes and around to Newport, R. I., where three days were spent at anchor and Newport, Jamestown, and other points of interest visited by the men, all of whom were given very full shore liberty.

While at anchor the Jamestown Casino was formally opened, to which all the officers were invited and which formed a very pleasant social incident in the stay at this place.

On leaving the anchorage the Iowa proceeded down to Tangier Sound in the Chesapeake Bay, where target practice was conducted by the Pennsylvania and Maryland Militia. The results of this target practice and the ones subsequently held showed Pennsylvania to have secured a higher average of hits per gun per minute than any of the Atlantic Coast Naval Militias that have fired so far this year. The reports also made to the Navy Department showed a high order of professional ability in the members of the militia in the various branches.

On leaving Tangier Sound the Iowa proceeded up to Baltimore city, where the Baltimore men were disembarked, the Philadelphia Militia subsequently returned to Philadelphia after a cruise of eleven days duration which, while full of plenty of hard work, had been most instructive in character and satisfactory in nearly every way.

On this cruise, after the crew had got shaken down into place, the work was done by the combined complement as one crew, the militiamen and regulars taking their turn. The Pennsylvania officers took the deck and stood their watch, the men took the wheel and handled the vessel. Others were on lookout, light buoy, watch, etc., and one engine-room watch of three was manned almost entirely by the Pennsylvanians.

In fact the machinists, water tenders, oilers and other engine-room men from Pennsylvania have received consistently good marks; the report of the ship's chief engineer showing every one of them to have reached a mark of their four of a possible perfect mark of five for work and professional ability.

Lieutenant C. E. Shaw, the Naval Militia's Chief Engineer, also distinguished himself when a serious trouble developed in the port condenser, temporarily putting the whole port engine out of commission. For his work in connection with this and for his work generally he was personally thanked by the regular commanding officer, who said to him, "Mr. Shaw, I do not know what we would have done without you on this cruise."

Other Naval Militia exercises held this year consist in a rendezvousing of Naval Militia vessels the latter part of July in Tangier Sound for Naval Militia manœuvres in strictly Naval Militia vessel and for target practice. There is also other manœuvres for the militia in Gardner's Bay, besides special work on the Pacific coast with the militias of California, Oregon, and Washington, and on the Gulf with the militia of Louisiana.

The Lake militias will rendezvous at South Manitou Island in Lake Michigan on August 12th for manœuvres, vessels coming from the various ports on the United States' side of the Great Lakes. Pennsylvania will be represented by the U. S. S. Wolverine, formerly the U. S. S. Michigan, which is stationed at Erie with Divisions C and D, and which sailed on August 8th under command of Commander Mitcheson bound for the rendezvous.

The Lake militias' tour of duty will be one of two weeks, some

of them having a considerable distance to come to reach South Manitou; Pennsylvania, for instance, in the Wolverine, will have steamed over 1150 miles by the time she returns to Erie.

THE PECULIAR NECESSITY OF CAMPS OF INSTRUCTION FOR OFFICERS OF THE MEDICAL CORPS.

(Captain Henry H. Doan, Medical Corps, N. G. P.)

It is none too soon, for those of us sufficiently interested in advanced work, to urge that the Medical officers be invited and encouraged to attend the Camp of Instruction, should one be established next year.

I do not think I exaggerate the importance of the Corps to which I belong, when I state that it derives more real benefit from these schools than does the Line; for the reason that it is the sole chance the Medicos have for class work; isolated as the surgeons are throughout the State, little or no opportunity is offered for these gentlemen to get together for their mutual benefit.

During the winter the Line officers are comparing notes, holding schools and playing the war game; but the Medical officers have no opportunity to avail themselves of the benefits derived from such instructive and profitable work.

Quite as much is demanded of the Military surgeon of the present day as is required of his brother officer in the Line; for besides his knowledge of medicine and surgery, he is expected to be familiar with subjects purely military, together with the tactics peculiar to his own department.

Sanitary tactics has opened up an immense field for the Medical officer. To handle intelligently his various units in campaign, a surgeon must be thoroughly familiar with all of the following subjects: Orders, Map Reading, Weapons, Efficiency of Cover, Casualties, Transportation, Organization and Administration. To obtain the merest insight into this comprehensive subject, Sanitary Tactics, requires much study, and the schools which were established at Antietam and Mt. Gretna, were only intended to give the student an outline, and prepare him, if interested, to work out with some intelligence, hypothetical problems at home, and the more practical work with the troops at the annual encampments.

Until quite recently, camp sanitation has occupied nearly all of our time, and much has been talked about and written upon this subject. I should not care to have any one think that camp sanitation was not deserving the thought expended upon it; but I read with much pleasure, Major Arnold's article, "After Sanitation—What?" in the June issue of this Journal.

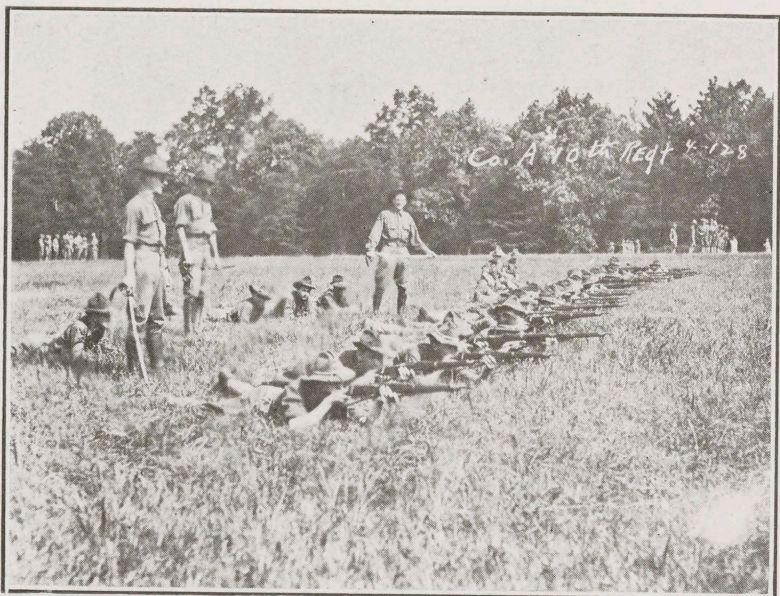
Almost any surgeon of experience and average intelligence, who is really interested in his work, and keeps his eyes open, can plan, and with the co-operation of the commanding officer, maintain a sanitary camp. He should be familiar with the dangers that menace a camp, and devise proper methods to meet or avoid them. Should a dirty camp be found during one of our tours of duty, judgment should not be hasty, for I will venture to observe that, if careful inquiry be made, it will be found that the surgeon is not receiving the proper support from regimental headquarters.

The Medical officers of Pennsylvania's Guard have little to learn concerning camp sanitation; the only thing I might suggest would be, that the best features developed and found to be practical and efficient by the surgeons of the various commands, be selected, and that the sanitary arrangements of all the regiments in camp be made uniform by official edict.

But many of us are eager to go a step further than camp sanitation, and grapple with the subject that is occupying so much of the time of the military surgeons both in our own and the foreign armies—Sanitary Tactics—and this is the subject to which the teachers at these Camps of Instruction devote most of the time. This is the subject we of Pennsylvania are most impatient to tackle. Under competent instructors a camp of this kind is the place to obtain an insight into this fertile topic. This invaluable knowledge better fits us to perform the many trying duties which would be demanded of us during a campaign.

I have no doubt that there were surgeons who, for some reason or another having been unable to attend one of these camps, and having neglected reading **Straub** or **Munson**, had a few mortifying moments under the keen eyes of the Regular Army instructors at the manœuvres during this year's tour of duty of the Division.

A militia surgeon without some knowledge of Sanitary Tactics, would be of little more value to an army in the field than a civilian doctor, and his services could only be utilized far in the rear, away



CAPTAIN HARTLAND'S CO. A, 10TH, AT MT. GRETN. PHOTOS. BY HARPEL.

from the zone of conflict, where, in the event of war, there would be an ample supply of competent physicians to man the base hospitals; while there would be an urgent need for surgeons familiar with the war game as it is practiced to-day. Therefore let us pull together with a will, and bend all our efforts toward being invited to the next camp. More medical officers should endeavor to avail themselves of the privilege, for the work is both interesting and beneficial.

REVIEWS OFFICIAL HISTORY.

O. R. Howard Thomson, the well-known librarian of Williamsport, has written the following interesting review of the first volumes of "The Official History of the Militia and National Guard of Pennsylvania":

"The first two volumes of 'The Official History of the Militia and National Guard of Pennsylvania,' by Major William P. Clarke and published by Captain Charles J. Hendler, have just been issued, and copies have been received at the James V. Brown Library.

"For years students of military matters have found it a matter of the greatest difficulty to run down information regarding the State's Militia and National Guard, the records of the work of both bodies being either and reports, or buried in other books chiefly devoted to other subjects. Yet no history of the State or nation can justly ignore these troops. In the Colonial period, or at least from 1676, membership was compulsory on every male; in the Revolution upon the organization of the Committee of Safety the troops passed under the control of that body, their services under Wayne and Washington being well known. They were called to aid in the suppression of both the Fries and Whiskey rebellions and in the war of 1812 were again fighting their nation's battles. Two regiments, of ten companies each, accompanied General Scott in the Mexican War, and the Second Pennsylvania was the first regiment to enter the City of Mexico. Their part in the Civil War both at its outbreak, when Washington was in a panic, and during the two invasions of the State, is deserving of more widespread recognition than has been accorded to it. They are by no means mere bodies of men for the putting down of riots and keeping order during strikes, though even here their work has been of incalculable benefit.

"The second volume brings the history down to the riots of 1877, four years after the reorganization under Governor Hartranft, and the third volume, when issued, will continue the history of the Guard to the present time, including the Spanish American War, during which the entire force was mustered into the national service; three regiments campaigning in foreign territory, two of them being under fire. Subsequent to the war the association between the National State military bodies has been closed and to-day the State troops form an integral part of and the first line of the national defense.

"The narrative of Major Clarke could hardly be improved upon; it is unusually clear, forceful and free from the empty rhetorical flourishes that mar so many military works, while the mass of information he has collected and arranged, places all students of history in his indebtedness. His wide knowledge of the history of the State in general and of her military matters in particular has made his achievement possible. The third and concluding volume will be impatiently awaited."

BULLETIN OF MILITIA NOTES

Issued By the Division of Military Affairs, War Department, for the Year 1912.

111. Attention is invited to the fact that General Orders, No. 23, War Department, current series, promulgates a new system of official correspondence for the War Department, and it applies to the Organized Militia in all correspondence with the Division of Militia Affairs. This system will be placed in operation on September 1, 1912.

112. The Ordnance Department will furnish one model set of the infantry equipment, new pattern, upon requisition in the usual form.

113. Non-commissioned officers on duty with the Organized Militia, or sergeant-instructors, qualifying in rifle practice, cannot have their scores certified to by retired officers of the Army. The scores must be certified to by Inspector-Instructors.

114. When invoices and receipts are sent to the Governors, covering shipment of supplies furnished by the Philadelphia depot of the Quartermaster's Department, the following notation, in the form of a memorandum, accompanies the vouchers:

The copy of receipt marked "Property Branch" should be forwarded to the office of the Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C., and the other two copies returned to the Invoicing Officer.

The Property Branch receipt is intended as an original voucher to the Post Property Account. The second copy is marked "Clothing Branch," and is intended for the Clothing Branch of the office of the Quartermaster General; the third copy is retained as a voucher to the Post Property Account.

These directions, however, are ignored in many cases, and it is requested that, in order to avoid considerable confusion and delay in the office of the Quartermaster General, that the requirements contained in the above notation be strictly observed.

115. The Comptroller of the Treasury, under date of August 6, 1912, has rendered a decision that the hire of mounts for Inspector-Instructors of the Organized Militia, is not authorized, due to the fact that no appropriation exists from which payment of horses can be made.

W. J. SNOW,

Major, Acting Chief, Division of Militia Affairs, for the Chief of Staff.

THE TACTICAL EMPLOYMENT OF THE INFANTRY MACHINE GUN.

Translated by Lieutenant Harry H. Bissell, Nineteenth Infantry.

(By Courtesy of the Journal of the Military Service Institution)

Most authors who have hitherto treated of the tactical employment of machine guns agree in saying that the defensive is the role to which this new weapon most readily lends itself.

With these writers we cannot wholly agree, as it appears that this opinion has been formed from conditions that should exist on the field of battle rather than upon what would actually happen. It has been assumed that it would be possible, by the occupation of positions possessing a good command over the surrounding country, determined in advance to prevent the enemy from occupying the disputed ground and at the same time give support to the troops on the firing line. But this method of procedure does not adapt itself to the complete utilization of the peculiar qualities of the weapon, particularly its mobility. On the other hand, occasions when the



SECOND BRIGADE AT COLEBROOK.



CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES RESTING AT LAWN, PA.

full power of their fire may be made use of do not occur as often as might be supposed. It is difficult to find country where the field of fire is both open and extensive; there will always be dead spaces of which the enemy can take advantage. Often at long ranges the machine guns will not be able to open fire on account of the danger of injuring their own troops; at the mid and short ranges a hostile force, by taking advantage of all cover, moving forward at high speed in detached fragments and by short rushes, will offer a very small and very difficult target. The action of the machine guns under such conditions will ordinarily be limited to watching the country where they will have a chance to surprise the supports and reserves of the enemy as they advance.

In order that the guns may be employed usefully and often in the case cited above they will be obliged to operate in close connection with the infantry units that they accompany in all their movements. The only method by which they can render effective and constant aid to their infantry is by utilizing to the full their knowledge of the country over which they operate. On this account the machine guns should be left with the troops of the outpost in advance of the position that it is proposed to defend, and orders to come in contact with the enemy.

When the position occupied is preceded by an advanced line, the machine guns can be placed with great advantage on this advanced line. They will assist in deceiving the enemy as to the real force of the troops engaged and will, perhaps, lead him into making false dispositions or premature deployments.

At times some of the guns can be placed along the front of the principal defensive line as soon as contact with the enemy is obtained; for example, to sweep with their fire certain defiles or indispensable passages, in order to prevent their use by the enemy. They can, however, very rarely do this absolutely, because infantry, with its wide deployments, will always succeed in sifting through and progressing. The best that can be expected of them is that they will furnish a substantial impediment to the hostile advance.

Emplacements for the guns can, it is true, be prepared all along the line to be defended. But it will not be expedient to occupy them until the true intentions of the enemy have been discovered and the direction of his attack definitely ascertained.

On the other hand, machine guns have a well-defined place in positions where it is intended to rest on the defensive. In less than an hour a gun detachment can construct lightly roofed with planks, fascines, etc., covered with earth, such as is laid down in our regulations on field works. Firing through loopholes constructed in the parapet, the machine guns are practically completely protected. They need even have no fear of the hostile artillery; they are perfectly protected against shrapnel and they have little to fear from a demolishing fire, the trench being in small relief and easy to conceal.

Machine guns can render valuable assistance to the garrisons of field works. Placed in the trenches in the manner that has been described they will be practically immune from the fire of hostile artillery. This constitutes a precious advantage to the defense. The fire of the infantry, obliged to show itself in order to fire, will be but slightly efficacious. If the defenders are kept under shelter in properly protected redoubts they perhaps will man the parapet only at the last moment, when the hostile artillery has increased its range for fear of firing into its own forces. But the latter will at this time be only a short distance from the work.

This short distance might be covered by a single rush before the defending infantry could take station. The machine guns, having the enemy under their fire during the entire advance, will compel him to use more caution, slacken his step, and by sweeping the glaucis of the work with their fire, check the impetus of the rush and give the garrison time to leave its shelter and man the parapets.

Machine guns have a well-defined place in any circumstances where a good field of fire can be obtained, and, above all, where an

attack of the enemy is most to be feared, such as the weak points in a line of works, the salients for example, where a sufficient number of rifles cannot be placed.

Machine guns are equally valuable to protect the intervals between works, to protect their flanks and to sweep dead spaces. If they make proper use of the ground for purposes of concealment, if they know how to shelter themselves as described above, in sheltered trenches, they can, at the decisive moment, sweep all the territory confined to their care with their fire and render it impassable to the enemy, or at the very least, materially delay his progress.

On the defensive, as well as on the offensive, it seems as though the machine guns should remain the "Combattant comrades" of their infantry. Their initial co-operation will greatly augment the resisting power of the forces to which they are attached and permit the reduction of the strength of the forces that must be engaged at the very beginning of the action; the infantry thus saved will be available for manoueuering, for counter attacks, for offensive returns or for the general resumption of the offensive.

In all cases the rational idea would seem to be to keep the machine guns with the units to which they ordinarily belong. Thus employed, they always constitute with their infantry, "the fixed element of superiority of fire" that permits of the advance the only decisive movements.

Employment can be found for machine guns even in night operation. Our Field Regulations say: "Infantry alone is suitable for night combat—the support of cavalry and artillery can be depended upon only when day breaks to follow up and complete the success." This principle, though true in case of attack, is open to dispute when it treats of defense. In such a case it can be readily seen that the use of artillery—especially rapid-fire guns—would be of great value before the menace of a night attack, to render impassable some indispensable point in the advance, cannonade a portion of the road, a specified section of country, etc. Under the first empire it was the rule when a force in cantonment in a village possessed artillery, to train, in the evening, one of two guns on the barricaded ways of ingress in order to sweep them with their fire in case of attack.

At night infantry fire is, generally speaking, very effective. In order to remedy this defect, the placing of the rifles on rests, planks, hurdles, etc., provided with range marks has been advanced. The garrison would rest their weapons on these marks, which would tend to aim them automatically and could then open fire. But it can be readily seen that this method of procedure would be expedient of but problematical value.

Machine gun fire, on the other hand, provided the guns were trained during the day, would have an entirely different aspect. By a system of bracelet firing with different elevations an entire zone could be rendered impassable to the enemy.

"After the battle of Hai-Kou-Tal the Japanese troops charged with the defense of the village of Yac-Tsou-Pao grouped their machine guns and pointed them in the direction of Wang-Toha-Wo-Peng. On the night of February 3rd an entire Russian brigade advanced to the attack of this village. The attack was repulsed."

It is apparent that the grouping of the machine guns in this particular case was a very judicious use of the material on hand. Similar circumstances could very easily arise that would compel a similar solution. Naturally it is impossible to enumerate them all.

As a general principle we do not believe in grouping machine guns, to their employment en masse or to their utilization as a reserve. But it is always well understood that a commanding officer is at liberty to make such disposition of his forces as seems best to accomplish the given purpose.

From all that has been cited in the course of this article it is believed that the following conclusions can be drawn:

The employment of a machine gun section in conformity with



BATTERY C, (CAPT. COX) AT THE JOINT MANEUVERS.



16TH ON THE FIRING LINE.

the methods laid down in the Drill Regulations is always possible and the section can, under ordinary circumstances, always co-operate with its infantry on the battlefield. It is in this co-operation that the machine gun is seen to its best advantage; every other way of using this weapon—always excepting special cases that may arise—neglects some one of the essential qualities of the arms.

Let us have confidence in our machine gun sections. Commanded by young, vigorous and daring officers to whom should be allowed all the liberty of action consistent with the regulations, we may rest assured that they will honorably and usefully fulfil their mission on the battlefield.

The Machine Gun in Mountainous Country.

We do not feel at liberty to bring this article to a close, however, without a few words on the subject of the use of machine guns in mountain warfare.

In mountainous country, even more than in ordinary terrain, the machine gun is capable of rendering very important service.

Generally speaking, in mountainous country deployments and the advance by successive rushes are easy, for covered ways and paths concealed from hostile eyes abound. On the other hand, the occupation of commanding points, permitting a wide extent of view and extreme long range fire, considerably increase the sphere of action. But the crests that can be utilized are, on account of the nature of the country, comparatively few in number, and for this reason the number of infantry that could occupy them would be insufficient for effective fire. Machine guns, however, are just the weapons to occupy these prominent points of the battlefield. Moreover, salient passages are numerous and changes of station are slow and difficult; circumstances that permit the machine guns to utilize the power and rapidity of their fire to the utmost.

These accidents of surface, however, should cause machine guns to modify greatly their battle tactics. They will change more rarely than in open country as the occupation of commanding positions will enable them frequently to fire over the heads of their own troops, and they will not be compelled to follow their infantry so closely in order to render constant and effective service. Consequently they will be able to remain in one position until the advance of their infantry will render it necessary for them to take a step in advance in order to continue their fire. At the same time they will form a rallying point in case of repulse and can thus continue their mission of protection.

In many cases, however, their frontal fire, owing to the facility with which hostile troops can take advantage of the natural shelter provided by the ground will have very little effect. In such a case it would seem that the proper method to pursue would be to endeavor to move to the flank, so as to be able to open a defilading or reverse fire on the enemy. In this case the guns run the risk of becoming separated from the troops that they accompany and isolating themselves to a certain extent. The necessity of keeping within supporting distance appears indisputable. For the country is too much cut up and the effective strength in the immediate vicinity is too small to absolutely prevent small detachments of the enemy, especially on the flanks, from reaching the field of battle. The supports need not be of great strength, ordinarily a platoon will be sufficient, for its role is that of observation rather than assistance. In order to render the guns secure against surprise or annoyance from hostile parties the support should be thrown out well to the front and to the flanks and it should not hesitate to push its scouts forward to the neighboring crests, especially when the guns are posted on the side of a hill or half way down the slope.

In connection with an advance guard the machine guns will be of greatest assistance in retarding the march of an enemy if they know how to hold the indispensable paths of advance under their fire. They can thus force the enemy to make detours or to move forward with extreme caution. In fact, the machine guns will often be able to render certain passages impassable to the hostile troops charged with flanking movements or operations away from the front of the position to be attacked.

A machine gun section, in connection with a few scouts, lightly equipped so that they can move rapidly from place to place, observing the country for long distance to the front will frequently be able to arrest the approach of a greatly superior force for an entire day. In order to overcome their resistance the enemy will be compelled to extend his front, engage in extensive and time-consuming turning movements, that will permit the defenders to make other dispositions to meet the new conditions.

Machine guns will be a valuable adjunct to flanking parties and to all detachments charged with the duty of security and information. They will enable the strength of the different parties to be diminished, at the same time increasing their powers of resistance. They will contribute to the safety of the manouever and will enable it to become more extensive and more complete.

On the defensive, when they occupy a well-sheltered position over a country difficult for an advance and giving a good field of fire, they will suffice to render the front impregnable. For it must not be forgotten that in mountainous country it takes an hour for fully equipped troops to climb from 300 to 500 meters. To attempt this in the face of machine gun fire would be the height of folly.

Dead spaces, however, in hilly country are numerous, and on the battlefield they form shelter in front of the occupied positions where the enemy can reform and regain breath before making another forward movement. By a judicious use of these natural features of the ground and by taking plenty of time the enemy would succeed in reaching to within a short distance of the defended positions, and this, too, without great loss. It would be necessary, therefore, to exercise close supervision over all dead spaces that could be converted into rallying points for a hostile advance. The long lines of riflemen would very often not be available for this duty; they would not always find sufficient space for their deployment, they would seldom be able to find cover, and would run the risk of being taken in flank or rear by the hostile infantry or artillery fire. On the other hand, the machine guns could fill this role to perfection. A rock or a rapidly constructed earth parapet would be suffi-



FIRST PRINCIPLES. (CLASS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS, CAMP OF INSTRUCTION, MT. GR ETNA, JUNE, 1912.)



COMPANY D, 10TH, IN ACTION.

cient to protect the guns from view and from hostile fire and they would render untenable all the ground covered by their fire.

Finally it should be remarked that in mountainous country machine guns will very much oftener be able to fight successfully against artillery than in open country. Mountain artillery has, comparatively speaking, very little power, and its effective range is far inferior to that of field artillery. Moreover, a mountain battery is a very heavy column, slow in its movements and its deployments.

A well-handled machine gun section, thanks to the ease with which it can be manouvered and concealed, and also to the nature of the ground, that will permit it to approach its enemy without being discovered and to conceal and protect itself from the view and fire of the enemy, should often seek a duel with mountain artillery, and we feel confident that in the great majority of cases the conflict would result in its favor. Even at extreme ranges a mountain battery, with its numerous pack trains, forms an excellent target; it would be overwhelmed by a storm of projectiles before it could get into a position to make an effective reply. We believe that this opinion will be shared by all those who have witnessed the length of time that it takes a mountain battery to estimate and obtain the correct range even if it succeeds at all.

The attachment of machine gun sections to all covering troops, and especially to the Alpine battalions, is an imperative necessity. The peculiar conditions of the country lend themselves perfectly to the tactical properties of this weapon; and besides, any economy of personnel that can be gained by the employment of mechanical agents is especially valuable here (in the Alps) on account of the relative feebleness of the effective troops of this sort.

Conclusions.

The infantry gun, no matter what model is used, it being understood, of course, that it is a comparatively small, easily assembled and composed of pieces light enough to be transported by the gun detachment, is a weapon capable of rendering the most invaluable service.

The weapon employed in the French Army satisfactorily fulfils these conditions; of very little vulnerability, it possesses sufficient valuable qualities to be the true "Combattant comrade" of the infantry that it accompanies in the various phases of the combat; it can accompany its infantry step by step, taking position in all available places, and utilizing for its forward movement all possible cover and accidents of terrain.

It has a very considerable effect on an enemy, while, on the other hand, it gives great confidence to its own troops. It should never hesitate. It should at all times and under all circumstances seek a position beside its infantry, there to fulfil its role of protection and support. Generally speaking, its tactical properties will permit it doing this without great risk.

Nevertheless, in order that it may be profitably employed at all times, that it may take advantage of every opportunity, at the same time avoiding the hostile fire, the section commander should possess very positive qualities of quickness of eye, audacity and coolness.

On the other hand, it seems but just that in all that pertains to the accomplishment of his mission a large amount of initiative should be left to the section commander. It is also absolutely essential that he should be made thoroughly familiar with the tactical situation and that he thoroughly understands the objective assigned to the force that he is to accompany. To achieve this mission he should be permitted to make use of his own initiative, in order that he may employ the material under his command to its fullest value. It also seems logical that the greatest possible latitude should be left him as to the choice of means, movements, positions and the kind of fire to employ. The constant endeavor to second the infantry by every means within his power should be all that is required of him.

Furthermore, the section commander alone is in a position to know at every stage of the conflict what is possible for him to attempt, according to the circumstances of the conflict, taking into consideration the condition of his pieces and the morale of his men.

A machine gun, in order that it may give all the service of which it is capable, should be ably handled. The section should know perfectly the tactical properties of his weapon and how to utilize them; the personnel should be in a high state of instruction. It seems, therefore, that it would be wise to foresee the loss of certain portions of the detachment and to train substitutes for them.

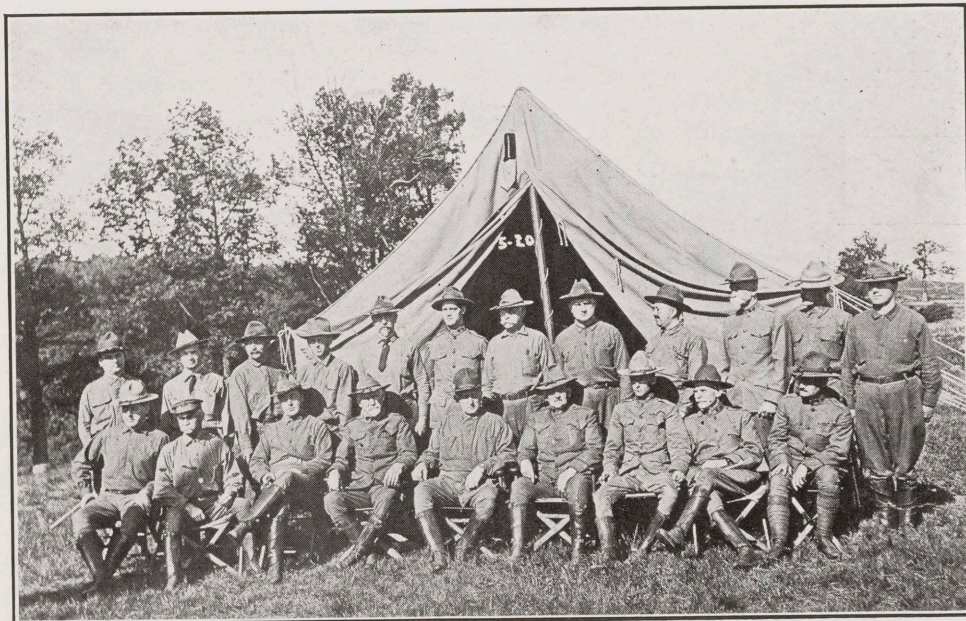
The Russian officers who were compelled, during the stress of actual campaigning, to make use of improvised material, declare that the value of their machine gun sections was thus seriously impaired. A long time is necessary to train both officers and men in the judicious use of the piece.

Nevertheless, the importance of the weapon must not be exaggerated. It can neither replace infantry nor successfully fight against artillery. It is simply a weapon of strength and a support. For these reasons it will be well employed if its mission is confined to assisting the infantry. More should not be asked of it.

Limited to a role of protection and support, the value of the machine gun is, nevertheless, very great. The experiences of the war in Manchuria leave no doubt as to this.

Machine gun sections placed on the battlefield in support of their infantry and guided by a precise knowledge of the object to be obtained can profit by every occasion favorable for the utilization of their power and rapidity of fire and can greatly assist in the general result. Their presence lends cheer to the infantry moving painfully forward under hostile fire; their presence on the firing line gives confidence. Their powerful fire, sweeping the field, destroys the dash of the hostile attack or compels the enemy to seek shelter behind his works and hinders him in the free use of his weapons. They aid their infantry to gain preponderance of fire over the enemy; they assist their own troops to resume or take up the advance, the only decisive movement.

For all these reasons they justify the statement of one of our most profound military writers that "every improvement in armaments is of benefit to the offensive."



INSTRUCTORS AND STUDENTS. (CLASS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS, CAMP OF INSTRUCTION, MT. GRETN, JUNE, 1912.)

OUR STATE Army and Navy

A Journal for Our Volunteer Soldiers

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Editorial Contributors

Major General C. BOW DOUGHERTY.
General WILLIS J. HULINGS, United States Volunteers.
Colonel C. T. O'NEILL, Fourth Infantry.
Commander JOSEPH M. MITCHESON, Naval Force of Penna.
Major WILLIAM P. CLARKE, Inspectors Dept.
Major HERBERT A. ARNOLD, Medical Department.
Captain HENRY H. DOAN, Medical Corps

It is with much regret that the Journal notes a report that Captain E. Lowry Humes, Adjutant, Sixteenth Infantry, has tendered his resignation and will shortly retire owing to the pressure of his professional duties. Captain Humes has been regarded as one of the most promising young men of the National Guard and it is hoped that he will continue in the service. His zeal for the Guard has been most commendable and his withdrawal would be a decided loss. Captain Humes has been particularly active in stimulating interest in militia affairs in the northwestern section of the State and it was only recently through his efforts, and those of Major R. Bruce Gamble and Captain Charles V. Clyde, that a most desirable site for a new armory was secured at Meadville.

The fifth annual competition of the State Rifle Association of Pennsylvania, held at the First Regiment Rifle Range on August 19-23, proved the most successful conducted by that organization. The prizes offered were of a more attractive nature than ever before, and there was an increased number of participants, especially of those residing outside of Philadelphia. First honors were awarded to Company L, Third Infantry, after spirited contests. The officers in charge of the matches are entitled to praise for their successful efforts in promoting interest in rifle work in the State. The officers of the association are: President, Major E. Claude Goddard; vice President, Captain Frank B. Bower; treasurer, Lieutenant Frank A. Hoppe; secretary, Nathan Sperring, Room 211 Broad Street Station, Philadelphia; executive officer, Captain K. K. V. Casey. Board of Directors: General J. Lewis Good, Colonel William F. Eidell, Major Henry Reed Hatfield, Major E. Claude Goddard, Major C. Carleton Jones, Captain Frank B. Bower, Captain K. K. V. Casey, Captain George Hugh Smith, Lieutenant Hugh Craig, Jr., Lieutenant Frank A. Hoppe, Lieutenant Thomas W. Andres, Mr. Nathan Sperring.

The Fourth Regiment is to be congratulated upon the selection of Marshall L. Case, as the new Lieutenant Colonel of that command. He will make a worthy successor to Lieutenant Colonel John M. Groff, whose recent retirement has been much regretted. Lieutenant Colonel Case has been through all the grades and should prove an excellent regimental commander when Colonel O'Neill is promoted to a Generalship. The Fourth Infantry is likewise fortunate in the choice of Phaon E. Shiedy as Major, to succeed Lieutenant Colonel Case. Major Shiedy was Captain of Company G, of Pine Grove, for years, and was esteemed as one of the best company commanders in the State.

The recent convention of the American Veterans of Foreign Service, at Philadelphia, attracted much attention to the large body of men who fought valiantly for the Stars and Stripes in other lands. These men saw actual service and gave an excellent account of themselves in the field of action. Their organization has done excellent work in keeping these veterans together, and the Journal hopes that it will be even more potent in the future.

"Stories of Some Shoots, or The Chronicles of a Gratified Gunner," is an interesting volume, written by General James A. Drain, editor of Arms and the Man. It is a book which will particularly appeal to military men and should meet with wide popularity in National Guard circles. General Drain has told in a graphic, agreeable style the experiences of an American sportsman in Scotland, and has provided a story well worth the reading.

NOTES

Colonel Frank A. Patterson, General Inspector of Small Arms Practice, states that a large number of changes planned to improve his department, will take place this fall. These changes will be in keeping with the requirements of the new rules and regulations of the War Department.

Captain William T. Rees, of Hampton Battery B, has been indisposed through ill-health for some time, but is now once more active. Captain Rees is planning an interesting drill season for the men of his command, and will probably arrange for outdoor practice in the mountains of Western Pennsylvania.

Stroudsburg, according to report, is knocking at the door of the State, for the admission of an infantry company from that well-known resort town. A temporary organization has already been formed for this purpose and the flower of the community has been enrolled. The preparation of the company is in the hands of a former Guardsman and experienced soldier, and it is predicted that the standard of the company will be well up to the mark.

Colonel C. K. Biddle, Third Infantry, met with splendid success in parading a provisional regiment as escort to the returning Olympic athletes in the demonstration tendered them in Philadelphia on the evening of August 26. The provisional command consisted of three battalions, one each from the First, Second and Third Regiments. The men made an excellent appearance and were well received by the large crowds who welcomed the American athletes who won world-wide fame at Stockholm.

Information is desired as to the whereabouts of Louis J. Houle, or Hood, a member of Rudolph Breault Camp No. 7, United Spanish War Veterans, R. I., who served in Battery F, Second U. S. Artillery and Battery M, Seventh U. S. Artillery. He left his home December 2, 1910, and when last seen he was working on the Trout Brook Drive at Wattagam Lake, near the Penobscot river in Maine. His last known post office address was Patten, Me. This information is desired by his wife, whose address is 182 Cumberland street, Woonsocket, R. I.

The officers of Colonel Stilwell's Thirteenth Infantry were quite in evidence during the recent parade of the Patriotic Order Sons of America at Scranton. Acting as judges in the competitive drills were: Major William A. Raub, Captain Edward J. Willner, Captain Lona B. Day and Major A. G. Rutherford, of the Inspector General's Department. One of the many prizes offered was a sterling silver trophy donated by Captain George F. Buss, of the Ninth Infantry. It is stated on very good authority that many members of the military rank of this splendid patriotic institution have decided to enlist in the several companies of the Ninth and Thirteenth Regiments.

Guardsmen have missed the usual congratulatory order issued immediately after the annual encampment.

Mrs. Luther C. Glazier announces the marriage of her daughter, Helen Glazier Root, to Major Gordon Scott, on Saturday, July 20th, 1912.

Major and Mrs. Gordon Scott will be at home after the 15th of September at The Sterling, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

The present endeavors of Colonel Dorrance Reynolds, of the Ninth Infantry, to maintain interest among his men, recalls the efforts of Colonel Miner in the same direction. The Ninth has long been famous as a shooting regiment, and under the leadership of Colonel Reynolds it should continue to hold this splendid distinction for years to come. Colonel Reynolds is demonstrating his abilities in a practical manner, and is proving an excellent successor to Colonel Miner. Colonel Miner's interest in rifle work is well recalled by the following letter which he issued to his men while he was in command:

"You are receiving herewith your rifle practice decoration. It is an honor to receive this medal and you should be proud to wear it.

"The Ninth Regiment made a good record in rifle practice last year, but we must do better. To succeed every man must help. Our motto is: "Every man a marksman or better." Try for a better score than last year. Make yourself familiar with your rifle in all its parts. Be sure you understand aiming, sighting, windage, and elevation, so that if you are ever on the firing line in the presence of the enemy you can make every shot count.

"I want a good shooting regiment, not only on paper, but in reality, and it is just as important to you as to me to help make it so, as some day your life may depend upon the skill of yourself and your comrades."

Despite the fact that the Eighteenth Infantry, Duquesne Greys, has the best equipped armory in Pennsylvania, largely due to the efforts of its colonel, the organization has already found that comforts for the men are not the only thing required to maintain interest in the drills. Colonel Logan is determined not to stop with the provision of excellent quarters, but is offering prizes to induce the men to attend to their military duties. This plan is expected to further stimulate the men in their efforts and to aid materially towards bringing the strength of the command up to the army maximum. The following general order tells its own story:

"In order to encourage attendance at drills in the regiment, it is proposed that cash prizes be offered for the companies having the greatest attendance at drills, beginning with the first regular drill night of the company in November, 1913, and to continue to the last regular drill in April, 1913, and include the Spring Inspections by the U. S. Army and State.

Prizes:

"First—\$75. Second—\$50. Third—\$40. Fourth—\$35. Fifth—\$30. Sixth—\$25, and an additional prize of \$50 to the high company, providing it has an average attendance of not less than forty-five officers and enlisted men. The winner to be determined on the greatest average attendance during the period designated for the competition, but no prize will be awarded or paid for a less average than thirty. The duration of the drill to be not less than one hour on the floor. The report of attendance to be taken on the drill floor or drill ground by the Battalion Adjutant and verified with the company commander, and certified to by the Battalion Commander. This report must be made on the drill night, and turned into the Regimental Headquarters on the same evening. The attendance to include both commissioned officers and enlisted men, and only those actually present on the floor to be counted, except in the case of the company quartermaster sergeant and company clerk, or a man detailed to perform their duties, from being on the drill floor by the company commander and counted present, provided they are giving active attention to work of the quartermaster or clerk.

"Cooks will not be counted unless they are present.

"Field Musicians may be counted as present, providing the Instructor of the field music will certify to the Battalion Adjutant that the field musicians have attended instructions on the night fixed for the purpose.

"All men counted in attendance at the drills must be regularly enlisted men.

"Attendance at school cannot be counted as any part of the minimum time fixed for drill.

"Should any companies tie on the percentage present for drills, the rifle practice figure of merit, season 1912, of the companies in question shall determine the order of their rank.

"The members of the winning companies shall have the right to, by vote to determine what purpose the prize money may be expended for. When this vote is taken, there must be members present equal to average on which the prize was won, and a majority vote of these members will decide.

"The following officers shall constitute a committee to award prizes: Regimental Commander, Lieutenant Colonel, Regimental Adjutant."

MEANING OF "AT HALF MAST."

At First Was Token of Submission to and Respect for Enemy.

Perhaps you have noticed that whenever a prominent person dies, especially if he is connected with the government, the flags on public buildings are hoisted only part the way up, remarks the Toronto Mail and Express. This is called "half mast." Did you ever stop to think what connection there could be between a flag that was not properly hoisted and the death of a great man?

Ever since flags were used in war it has been the custom to

have the flag of the superior or conquering nation above that of the inferior or vanquished. When an army found itself hopelessly beaten it hauled its flag down far enough for the flag of the victors to be placed above it on the same pole. This was a token not only of submission, but of respect.

In those days when a famous soldier died flags were lowered out of respect to his memory. The custom long ago passed from purely military usage to public life of all kinds, the flag flying at half mast being a sign that the dead man was worthy of universal respect. The space left above it is for the flag of the great conqueror of all—the angel of death.

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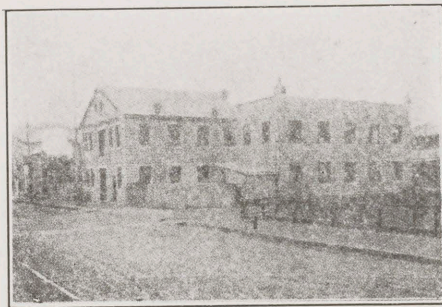
John R. Jones, for many years connected with the lumber firm of S. H. Sturdevant & Sons, has organized the John R. Jones Lumber Company, and will locate the office and yards of the new concern in Hanover Township, on Lee Park avenue. Mr. Jones has been in the lumber business locally for many years, and his new firm will be one of the leading lumber companies in this region.

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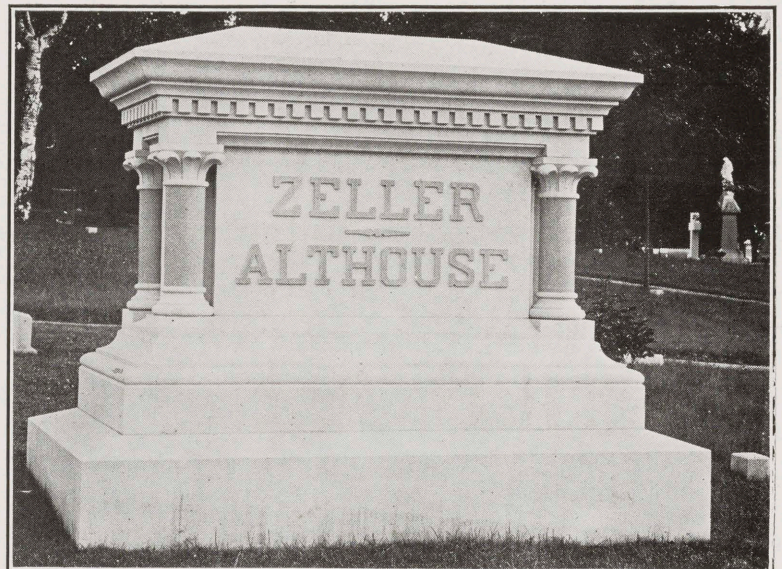
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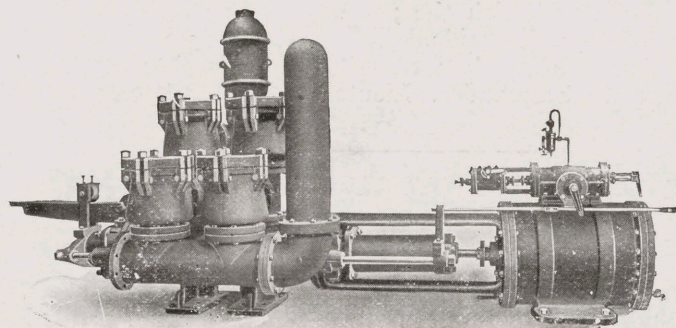
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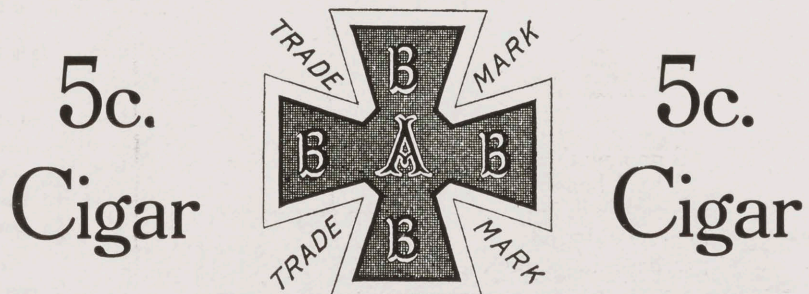
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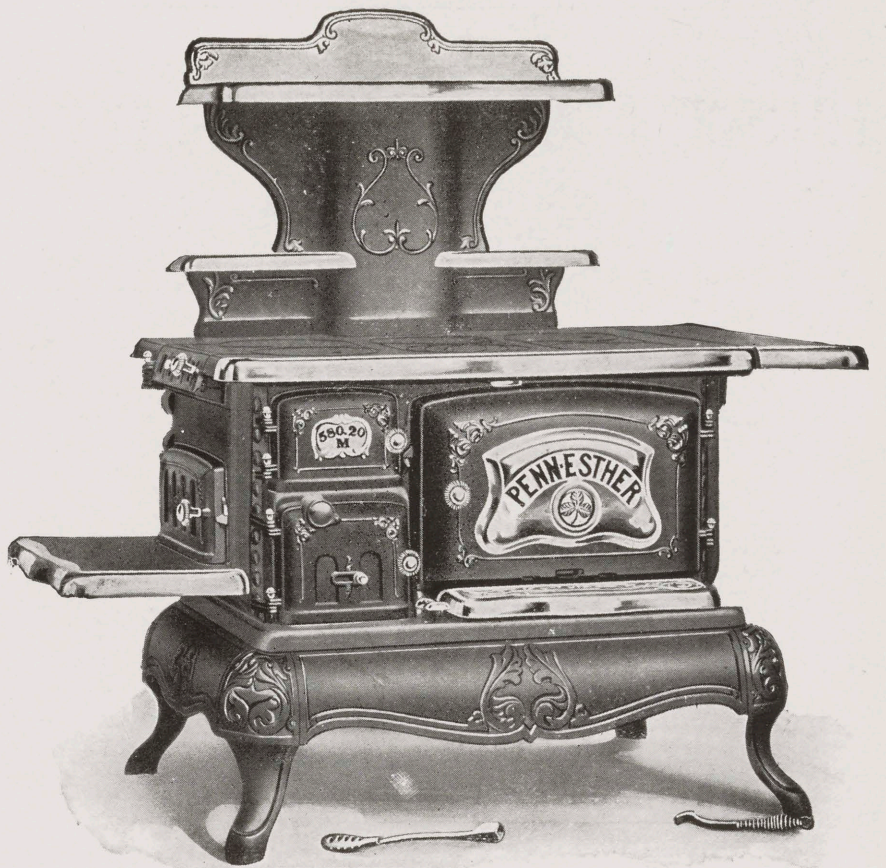


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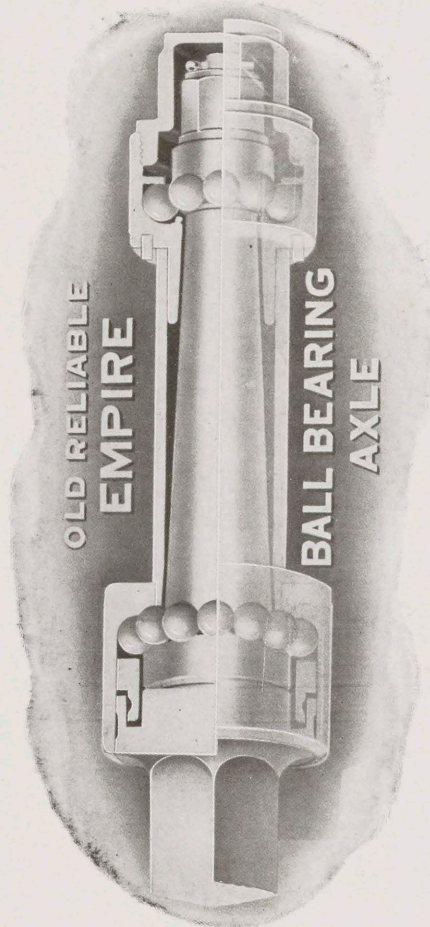
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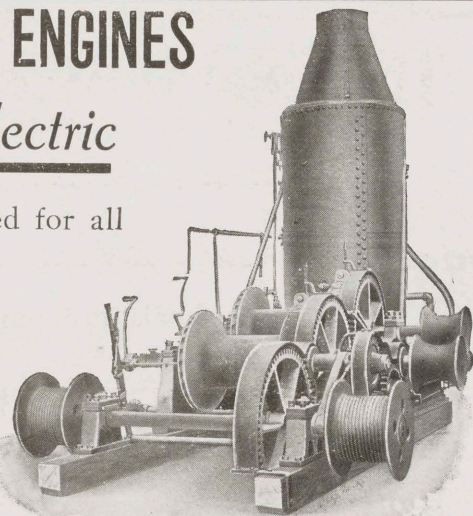
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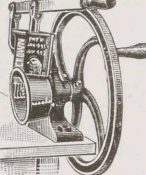
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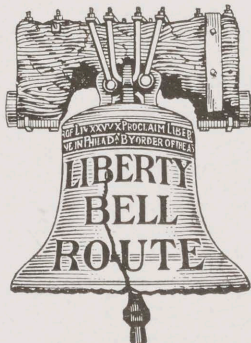
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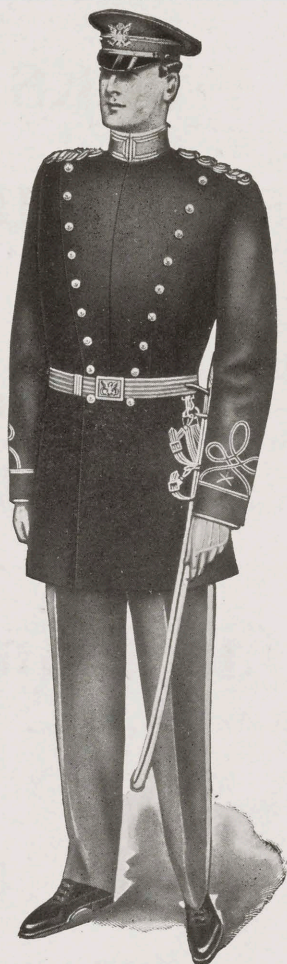
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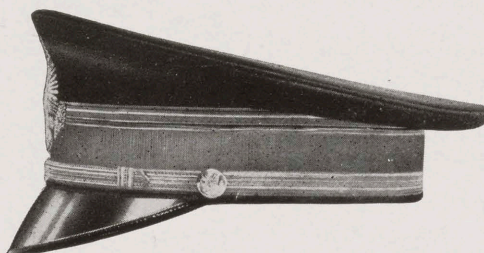


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Full Dress Caps Altered to New Regulation

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TO THE UNDERTAKING TRADE:

We are in a position to quote you on our new line of original and high class Casket Hardware in all the latest and newest finishes. Our shipments are prompt as we realize the importance of prompt delivery in this line of goods and aim to please our customers, and for that reason we always carry a full and complete line in stock.

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DELICIOUS! TENDER! JUICY! GOOD!

Ulmer's Summer Sausage



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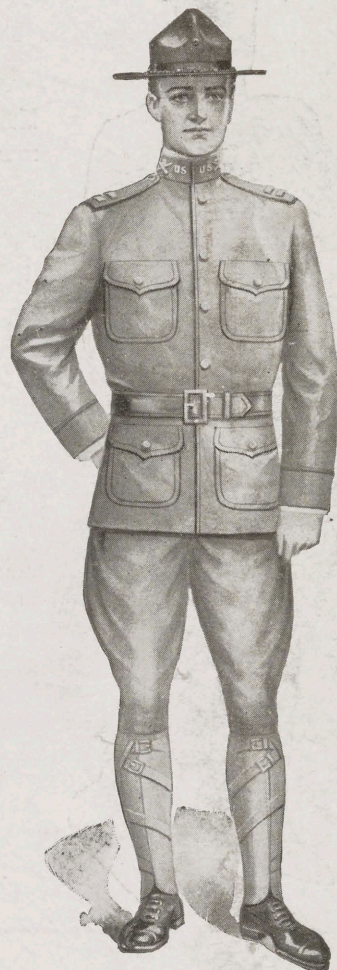
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